IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSE YABIEL AVILES LOIZ : CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff

: NO. 18-5620

v. :

:

ANDREW SAUL, Commissioner of the Social Security Administration :

Defendant

ORDER

AND NOW, this 14th day of April 2020, upon consideration of the *Report and Recommendation* (the "R&R") issued on February 27, 2020 by the Honorable Linda K. Caracappa, United States Magistrate Judge, [ECF 28], to which no objections have been filed, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

- 1. the Report and Recommendation is APPROVED and ADOPTED; and
- 2. the case is **REMANDED** to the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration ("Commissioner") so that it can be reassigned to a properly-appointed administrative law judge ("ALJ"), other than the ALJ who originally heard Plaintiff's case, for a new hearing and/or determination.¹

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Nitza I. Quiñones Alejandro
NITZA I. QUIÑONES ALEJANDRO
Judge, United States District Court

In the R&R, the Magistrate Judge recommended that this matter be remanded to the Commissioner for reassignment to a properly-appointed ALJ, consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Lucia v. S.E.C.*, 138 S. Ct. 2044 (2018), and the recent decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (the "Third Circuit") in *Cirko v. Comm'r of Soc. Sec.*, 948 F.3d 148 (3d Cir. 2020). Accordingly, in light of the Third Circuit's decision in *Cirko*, the R&R is approved and adopted, and this matter is remanded to the Commissioner for reassignment to a properly-appointed ALJ and a new hearing and/or determination.